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BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1945.

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Medical Officer of Health:

DR. A. BARLOW, M.B., Ch.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
BRIERFIELD.

August, 1946.

TO the Chairman and Members,  
BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

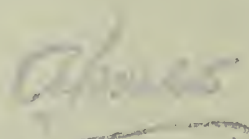
Gentlemen,

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 28/46, an Interim Report only, as in preceding years is presented for the year 1945. It includes only essential or urgent matters, which have affected Public Health during the year. All records and statistics are being preserved so that in respect of the post-war years a full report may be made.

I have pleasure therefore, in submitting for your consideration, the following interim report on the Health, Sanitary conditions and Public Health administration in the Urban District of Brierfield for the year ended 31st December, 1945.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1945, according to the Rate Book was 2,500, the Rateable Value being £42,929 and the sum represented by a penny rate - £178.

The social conditions were good; the chief industry is Cotton Weaving, though a large number of people were working on munitions outside the area and there was little unemployment in the District during the year.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS. 123 Births belonging to the District occurred during 1945, as follows:-

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Live Births	59	60	119
Still Births	4	-	<u>4</u>
			<u>123</u>

INFANTILE MORTALITY 3 Children under 1 year of age died during the year as follows:-

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Age.</u>
Asphyxia Livida	-	1	15 hours
Haemolytic Disease	-	1	2 days
Tuberculous Peritonitis	-	1	7 months

DEATHS. Comparative particulars with regard to deaths are given in the following table. From these it will be seen that 30% of the total deaths belonging to Brierfield occurred outside the District.

	1945	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.
TOTAL DEATHS:	93	99	84	100	115
Male Deaths:	42	55	40	50	61
Female Deaths:	51	44	44	50	54
DEATHS OUTSIDE DISTRICT:	28	34	31	33	32

The following table gives the ages at which deaths occurred also the causes of all deaths belonging to Brierfield during the Year, 1945:-

# SUMMARY OF DEATHS.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Year.	1,& under 5	5,& under 15	15,& under 25	25,& under 65	65,& over	TOTAL.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.					1		1
Non Pulmonary T. B.	1						1
Influenza.						1	1
Cancer					3	7	10
Acute Inf. Encephalitis.					1		1
Intercranial Vasc. Lesions.					5	6	11
Heart Disease					10	19	29
Other Circulatory Diseases.					1	3	4
Bronchitis					5	4	9
Pneumonia					1	1	2
Other Resp. Diseases.					1		1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum						1	1
Other Digestive Diseases						1	1
Nephritis					2		2
Congenital Malformation &							
Injury at birth etc.	2						2
Suicide.					2	1	3
Violence					1		1
Arteriosclerosis						3	3
Senility						7	7
Thyrototoxicosis					1		1
Uraemia						1	1
Asthma					1		1
<u>TOTALS.</u>	3	-	-	-	35	55	93

NOTE: ONE case of Pneumonia additional to our Register was given in the Registrar-General's Return :-

Our Register - 93 deaths (42 M. 51 F.)

Registrar General 2, 92 deaths (41 M. 51 F.)



## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This service is under the direction and control of the District Council. There has been no change in the times of opening and the clinic has been well attended.

### VENEREAL DISEASE.

The nearest clinic is at Burnley. Any cases discovered are advised to attend the Burnley Clinic.

## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

### WATER.

Brierfield is supplied with a constant supply of water from the mains of Nelson Corporation, and there were no new sources of supply during the year. No examinations are made by us, as routine examinations are made by Nelson Corporation Water Department.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

No extensions to sewers or sewage works were made during the year, and the existing services and arrangements have been efficiently maintained.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are approximately 17 pail closets in the District at isolated cottages in Marsden Heights.

### SCAVENGING.

This was carried out by the Council's own workmen, with a two-box "Fraser" tipping waggon. Domestic refuse is collected weekly free of charge from private houses, shops and mills, and disposed of at the Council's Destructor Works. This is now work of vital importance and the following amounts of materials have been salvaged:-

PAPER.....	55 tons.
METAL.....	26 tons. 10 cwt.
BONES.....	1 ton. 10 cwt.
KITCHEN WASTE.....	66 tons.

## SANITARY INSPECTION.

### Notices.

#### Inspections.

#### Prelim. Statutory.

#### Remedied.

### Nuisance

#### Inspections.

190

27

1

21.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS DURING 1945.

Houses found to be infested..... 8.  
Houses disinfested..... 8.

When required disinfection is by means of "Vermicine" and "Gescones" poison gas, carried out by the Local Authority, at the expense of the owner or occupier.

STATISTICS. 10 houses have been completed during the year.  
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These are Council Houses in brick construction.

CONDITIONS. Generally the houses are well built of stone, most  
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are through houses and in good condition.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

DAIRIES The milk supply is plentiful and its quality  
COWSHEDS & wholesome and it is distributed throughout the  
MILKSHOPS. District directly chiefly by farmers in the vicinity.  
-----  
Retail milk purveyors registered with the Council.. 45.  
Producers of milk registered with the Council.. 4.

Periodical inspections of places where food is prepared have been made, and the premises generally have been found in good order. Periodically, bacteriological examinations of samples of milk are made by the County Council.

MEAT. All slaughtering has been transferred to Abattoirs  
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outside the District.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of Infectious disease were visited upon notification, and where patients are not transferred to isolation hospital, they are isolated in one room of the house. Disinfectants are kept at the Town Hall and supplies are given to necessitous cases. Diphtheria Antitoxin and Tetanus Antitoxin are also issued free to Medical Practitioners on application.

DIPHTHERIA. There were 4 cases of Diphtheria notified during  
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the year. 1 - final diagnosis - Tonsillitis.  
Other 3 not immunised.

DIPHTHERIA  
IMMUNISATION.

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The scheme for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria has met with a good response. 143 children received treatment during the year, 79 of these were children under 5 years of age, the remaining 64 (38 - boost injections) were children attending school. I have continued to give talks on the value of immunisation, and posters have been displayed in the township. The following table gives the total number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified and the ages, during 1945:-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR, 1945.

	Total cases at all ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over.	Total Deaths.	Total cases removed from Hospital from the District.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the District.
Measles.	59.	1	9.	11.	17.	5.	15.	1.								
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1.	1.														
Whooping Cough.	34.	4.	8.	4.	6.	4.	6.		2.							
Diphtheria.	4.				1.	1.		1.	1.						4.	
Scarlet Fever.	40.		1.	2.	5.	2.	16.	9.	3.	2.					18.	
Erysipelas.	1.								1.							
Pneumonia.	8.		1.	2.	1.			1.	2.	1.				2.		
Dysentery.	17.	1.	1.	3.	1.		5.	1.	3.	2.						
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164.	7.	20.	22.	30.	12.	43.	10.	6.	11.	3.	--	--	--	2.	22.	NIL.



# TUBERCULOSIS.

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1945.

<u>AGE PERIODS.</u>	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1				1				1
1 - 5								
5 - 10				1				
10 - 15								
15 - 20								
20 - 25	1.							
25 - 35	1.							
35 - 45	2.			1.	1.			
45 - 55	2.							
55 - 65		1.						
	6.	1.	-	3.	1.	-	-	1.
	7.			3	1		1	

As these cases are dealt with by the County Tuberculosis Officer we have no direct information about the number of cases receiving allowances.

### LABORATORY WORK.

#### SPECIMENS EXAMINED DURING YEAR 1945.

Swabs for Diphtheria.....	Positive	2.	Negative	20.
Faeces: Pathogenic organisms.....	"	0.	"	16.
Sputum for Tuberculosis.....	"	0.	"	3.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Arrangements for Home Helps were made in 4 cases, Grants in aid of Hospital accommodation in 10 cases. Maternity outfits are now supplied by the County Midwife.

#### BIRTHS.

Number of Births notified during the year under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or Section 255 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transfer notifications:-

(a)	Live Births.....	119.
(b)	Still Births.....	4.
(c)	Total Births.....	123.
(d)	By Midwives.....	76.
(e)	By Doctors & Parents....	47.

#### HEALTH VISITING.

Number of Visits paid during the year by the Health Visitor:-

(1)	To Expectant Mothers	First visits	71.
		Total visits	260.
(2)	To children under 1 yr.	First Visits	92.
		Total visits	1069.

INFANT  
WELFARE  
CENTRES.

Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were:-

- (i) Under 1 year of age..... 97.  
(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 Yrs. 9.

ANTE-NATAL  
AND POST  
NATAL  
SERVICES.

Number of women who attended ante-natal clinics during the year..... 51.

Total number of attendances..... 343.

Number of women who attended post-natal clinics during the year..... 4.

Total number of attendances..... 14.

Total number of expectant mothers ante-natally examined and of cases post-natally examined during the year, under arrangements made by the Council with private medical practitioners:-

- (i) Ante-Natal cases examined..... Nil.  
(ii) Post-natal cases examined..... Nil.

INFANT  
WELFARE  
CENTRES.

Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the centre during the year and who, at the end of the year were:-

- (i) Under 1 year of age..... 90.  
(ii) Over 1 year of age..... 110.

SUPPLY OF  
MILK AND  
FOOD.

Dried milk is supplied at the Centre for expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age, free, or at less than cost price in necessitous cases. The total quantity of dried milk supplied during the year to above cases was 2,919 pounds. Fruit Juices and Cod Liver Oil have been supplied at the Food Office under the Ministry of Health's arrangements.

MATERNAL  
DEATHS.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

PREMATURE  
BIRTHS.

Relieving Squad for emergency cases is stationed at Municipal Hospital, Burnley. Arrangements made with the Bank Hall Maternity Hospital, Burnley, to admit premature infants, born at home, as circumstances require.

ILLEGITIMATE  
CHILDREN.

No social workers in this area. Burnley and District 'House of Help' and local clergy supervise generally.